

Directions from the //  
King, to the gouernors of  
the Prouinces, concerning  
the death of the Duke  
of Guyle.

*Together with the kings letter to  
the Lord of Taian.*

Translated out of French into English by E. A.



LONDON,  
Printed by Iohn Wwoolfe,

1589.

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*Instructions to the L. of N. concerning  
the death of the Duke of Guise, to the end  
to informe all such as he shall thinke con-  
venient, in place whether presently his  
Majestic hath sent him.*

**H**e first troubles moued in this  
realme by the D. of Guise, anno  
1585. haue giuen sufficient no-  
tice of a far other intent in him,  
then the same which he preten-  
ded, therewith to abuse the ouer  
great credulity of those that are  
more ready to imbrace nouelties, then wise to con-  
sider what ensue. For hauing cloked his bad purpo-  
ses with Catholike religion and the rooting out of  
heresie, all his exploites haue bene put in executi-  
on in the Catholike townes, euen in the best that he  
could seise vppon, to the end to beginne to lay sure  
and firme foundations of his said purposes, notori-  
ously contriued long since for the attaining to the  
vsurpation of this crowne. By meanes hereof, so far  
is heresie from weakening through his rising, that  
contrariwise it is growne and waxen much stronger  
then before it was in this lande: and that the rather  
through his withdrawing of a great part of his ma-  
iesties forces and helpes, whereby he hath bin hin-  
dered from working those effects that are necessarie  
to the rooting out thereof: whereof the saide Duke  
hath bene the onely cause, who neuerthelesse hath  
made himselfe falsly to be proclaimed, *The persecuter  
of the not Catholike religion.*

His maiestie neuertheloffe desiring to reunite all his Catholike subiects, did by his first edict extinguish this fault, vppon their goodly promises neuer to returne to the like: which notwithstanding, his forces being occupied in the wars, as well in *Guyen* as in *Prouence & Daulphine*, the said D. yet seised vpon other strong holds, and spared no practises or deuises dayly to withdraw more out of his maiesties obedience.

The seising vpon *Paris*, was the tipe of al mischief: which notwithstanding his Maiestie purposing to eschew all occasion of warre among his said Catholike subiects, endeouored also to bury this transgression with a second edict, and hoping to mollifie the hardnesse of the said D. of Guises heart, by fauours and courtesies bestowed vpon him, to many as hee seemed any way to demand.

But his ambition having a farther intene then to depend vppon any other, in lieu of acknowledging his duties to his maiestie, and conuerting the same to his seruice, he vsed them as bridges to new practises and attempts.

He neuer left practising the good townes that yet remained stedfast in his maiesties obedience, and it may be said, that in such of them as he yet could not draw wholly to his side, the deuision was through the saide drifts so great, that the magistrates in the most part were not able any longer to restraine the inhabitants from murthuring, & cutting ech others throat.

His partakers being detected of diuers heynous crimes, were vnder his support maintained in al freedom,



home, so as the magistrates haue not bene able to minister iustice.

The insolencie as well of himselfe as of his, proceeded so far, as to face, threaten, and terrifie those that would not be other then his maiesties seruants, to the end to force them to abandon him, that they might afterward the more easilie vse them at their pleasures.

In the assembly of the states they spared no means through the ministry of diuers their partakers who they had practised throughout the prouinces, to let fall the elections, so to take away all authoritie and obedience from his Maiestie, and make him odious to his subiects: whom they had stirred vp to make vnto him sundry absurd requestes, to the end by obeying them to cast downe the dignitie of his Maiestie, or being refused, to take thereof a pretence to break off, and then to impute the cause to his Maiestie, and so bring him into hatred with his sayde subiectes.

His Maiestie hath used all discretion possible, euen so farre forth, that he knowe himselfe to haue encountered the contempt of his sayde subiects, which was a great preparatiue to the sayde duke of Guize to strike his long forecast blowes and indeede his Maiestie hath receiued aduice from sundrie places, euen from such persons as otherwise were affected to the saide duke of Guize, and yet abhorred his bad minde, that without speedie regarde to his affayres he was in hazarde to loose both crowne and life.

All this importing not onely his owne person but his whole kingdom, to the preservation whereof,

together with the peate of his subiectes; he oweth  
all care, as taking himselfe to be answerable before  
God if he looke not thereto; finding the mischief  
otherwise irremediable, but onely by the death of  
him that was the author; and purposed thereof to  
reape the profite, he was forced to put the saide D.  
of Guize to death, which hee performed the 29. of  
December last, 1588.

And because there might hereof rurne diuerse  
reportes, also that according to mens passions the  
truth might be disguised, and so the action misliked;  
which neuerthelesse can not bee imputed but to  
Gods iustice, which the sayd Duke had by all means  
prouoked against himselfe, his Maiestie thought it  
good to publish this brieue discourse, to the ende as  
well his subiectes, as all others might thereby bee  
made capable of the truth of the matter, attending  
greater light which may in few dayes be gathered.

As also he willett his sayde subiectes to assure  
themselves of his perseuerance in his purpose to pro-  
secure the rooting out of all heresie, a matter not  
depending vpon the affection of the sayde Duke  
of Guize or any other, but onely of his saide Maies-  
ties proper motion and firme intent, who in heart  
doth not desire any thing more then to see God  
honored and serued, and the Catholike Apostolike  
Romish religion to flourish throughout this realme  
as much as euer it did.

He is also in the same mind that he alwaies made  
solemne declaration of, viz. to relieue his subiects  
so much as possibly he might; and hath giuen to  
vnderstande to the deputies of the generall estates



assembled in this town, that his pleasure is, the same to be finished in all libertie, as also that they open ynto him whatsoever good motions they can conceaue for the attayning to the sayde reliefe, which next ynto the seruice of God, his Maiestie dooth most affect.

Howbeit, his will is, that all partialities, leagues, affociations, intelligences and practises doo cease among his subiectes, to the ende from hencefoorth next after God to rely vpon no other but their king, whom the diuine goodnesse hath given them, assuring them, that in so doing he will loue and cherish them as his owne children. As also hee is determined no longer to suffer the contempt of his authoritie, but to vse such seuerer punishment of those that shall forget their duties in this behalfe, as may be to the example of all others.

Thus signed, *Henrie*, and vnderneath, *Renot*.

Given at *Blois*, Decemb. 24. 1588.

at Blois this 24. of December. 1588.

Signed, *Henrie*, and vnderneath, *Renot*.

The Supplication.

To the Lo. of Tain, who commandeth in our name  
in our committee of Xantoune and Angoumois.

*The kings letter to the Lord of Taian.*



Y Lord of Taian, God hath at the  
last freed me from him that to the  
end to enfeeble my authoritie (as  
alreadie he had well begunne) and  
withall to wrest away both my life  
and scepter, did keepe my king-  
dome in trouble. Yesterday mor-  
ning had hee his deserved punishment, whereof I  
thought good to aduertise you, and withall to sende  
you a summarie discourse of the truth of the mat-  
ter, as well that it be not counterfeited vnto you, as  
also that you might impart the same to my subiects  
in those partes, and withall let your hande to the  
conteyning of all men in peace and quiet: likewise,  
if any should peraduenture be so foolish as to make  
any commotion, to take so good order that the  
same may receiue due punishment for his trespassse  
and disobedience, praying God (my Lo. of Taian) to  
haue you in his holy and worthy custody. Written  
at Bloys this 24. of December. 1588.

Signed, Henrie, and vnderneath, *Remot.*

*The Superscription.*

*To the Lo. of Taian, who commandeth in our name  
in our countries of Xantogue and Angumois.*



THE  
FRENCH KINGS

DECLARATION UPON THE RI-  
OT, FELONIE, AND REBELLI-

ON OF THE DUKE OF MAYENNE,

& the Duke and Knight of Aiz-  
malle, and all their  
assistantes.

Wherunto is adioyned

*Another Declaration of the same*

King, against the towncs of Paris, Orleance,  
Amyens, and Abbeuille and  
their adherentes.

Faithfully translated out of  
the French.



Printed at London, for Thomas Cadman. 1589.